

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR)	ORDER GRANTING
APPROVAL OF A BOUNDARY CHANGE)	AMENDED CERTIFICATES
BETWEEN VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS)	OF AUTHORITY AND
COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC. AND)	ORDER APPROVING
VENTURE COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE)	BOUNDARY CHANGE
)	TC03-023

On January 13, 2003, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a joint agreement between Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Inc. (Valley), Herreid, South Dakota and Venture Communications Cooperative (Venture), Highmore, South Dakota, requesting Amended Certificates of Authority pursuant to SDCL 49-31-69. Valley and Venture proposed to change the boundaries and place more direct lines along section lines or county roads in the following South Dakota exchanges: Glenham/Selby, Mound City/Selby, Eureka/Selby, Hosmer/Bowdle and Ipswich/Roscoe. According to the filing, no current customers are affected by the proposed boundary change. Valley and Venture also requested a waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:03, as the Commission already has the information on file.

On February 20, 2003, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the parties' request for approval of the joint request for a boundary change, the joint application for Amended Certificates of Authority, and waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:03.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and 49-31-69 and ARSD 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Valley and Venture have met the legal requirements established for the granting of Amended Certificates of Authority. Valley and Venture have, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and 49-31-71, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. Further, the Commission finds that there is good cause to waive subparagraphs 1 through 7, 9 through 21, and 23 of ARSD 20:10:32:03. Further, the Commission finds that pursuant to SDCL 49-31-69, the Amended Certificates of Authority shall be granted, that the proposed boundary territory change between Valley and Venture is in the public interest and the request shall be granted, and ARSD 20:10:32:03, parts 1 through 7, 9 through 21, and 23 shall be waived. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request for Amended Certificates of Authority shall be granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the proposed boundary territory change between Valley and Venture as set forth on the map filed with the application shall be granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that ARSD 20:10:32:03, parts 1 through 7, 9 through 21, and 23 shall be waived.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7th day of March, 2003.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner